ABSTRACT

Deriving a three-dimensional panorama from a plurality of images of a scene generated by a range imaging camera of the type that produces ambiguities in range information includes the steps of: (a) acquiring a plurality of adjacent images of the scene, wherein there is an overlap region between the adjacent images and at least some of the adjacent images are range images; (b) providing offset data for the range images in order to recover corrected relative scene spatial information and provide a corrected range image, and (c) deriving a three-dimensional panorama from the corrected range image. In order to provide offset data, a relative range difference is detected between adjacent range images as a constant offset between the adjacent images, and the constant offset is applied to at least one of adjacent range images to correct for ambiguities in the relative ranges of the range images.